

LISTING OF AND AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A non-overcoated in-mold label composition comprising:  
  
a thermoplastic microporous sheet substrate having first and second faces;  
  
a first down coat applied to the substrate, the first down coat being formed from a film-forming polymer applied on the first face of the microporous sheet substrate, the first down coat formulated from one or more of an acrylic polymer, a styrene-acrylic copolymer, an aliphatic polyurethane, a polyester resin, and a fluoropolymer such that the first down coat seals the microporous sheet substrate; and  
  
[[a]] an ink-printed media graphic printed on the first down coat of film-forming polymer, the first down coat protecting the quality of the ink-printed graphic.
2. Cancelled.
3. (Previously presented) The in-mold label in accordance with claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic material is ultra high molecular weight polyethylene.
4. (Previously presented) The in-mold label in accordance with claim 1 wherein the thermoplastic material is ultra high molecular weight polyethylene blend.
5. (Original) The in-mold label in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first down coat is a solvent-based film-forming material.
6. (Original) The in-mold label in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first down coat is a water-based film-forming material.

7. (Original) The in-mold label in accordance with claim 1 wherein the first down coat is a radiation cured material.

8-11. Cancelled.

12. (Currently Amended) The in-mold label in accordance with claim ~~[[11]]~~ 1 wherein the ink is a colorant carrier by a resin vehicle, the resin vehicle being an acrylic polymer, a polyester, a polyurethane a silicone or an alkyd resin.

13. (Withdrawn) A method for making an in-mold label comprising the steps of:  
providing a microporous sheet substrate having first and second faces;  
coating the microporous sheet substrate with a first down coat of a film-forming polymer on the first face of the microporous sheet substrate;  
drying the first down coat to form an undercoated sheet;  
printing a graphic on the dried first down coat on the undercoated sheet;  
drying the graphic.

14. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 13 wherein the step of drying the first down coat is by heating.

15. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 13 wherein the step of drying the first down coat is by irradiation.

16. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 13 wherein the step of

drying the graphic is by heating.

17. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 13 wherein the step of drying the graphic is by irradiation.

18. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 13 including the steps of cutting the microporous sheet into a shape to form an in-mold label and inserting the in-mold label into a mold.

19. (Withdrawn) A method for making a molded article having an in-mold label comprising the steps of:

- providing a microporous sheet substrate having first and second faces;
- coating the microporous sheet substrate with a first down coat of a film-forming polymer on the first face of the microporous sheet substrate;
- drying the first down coat to form an undercoated sheet;
- printing a graphic on the dried first down coat on the undercoated sheet;
- drying the graphic to form an in-mold label.
- securing the in-mold label in a first portion of a mold;
- closing the mold to define a mold cavity; and
- introducing a polymer into the mold cavity to form the molded article.

20. (Withdrawn) The method in accordance with claim 19 including the step of curing the molded article.